

# TEXAS COMMUNITY COLLEGES

## UPPER RIO GRANDE REGION

REGIONAL IMPACT OF  
COMMUNITY COLLEGES'  
SPENDING, 2019



Created to expand Texans' access to higher education, the state's 50 community college districts serve a vital role in our state's economy by developing our workforce, preparing students for further academic study and meeting the specific educational and vocational needs of the areas they serve.

The six counties in the Upper Rio Grande region — one of 12 economic regions defined by the Comptroller's office — include one community college district, El Paso Community College.

EMPLOYMENT

2,085

OUTPUT

\$192.1 MILLION

COMPENSATION

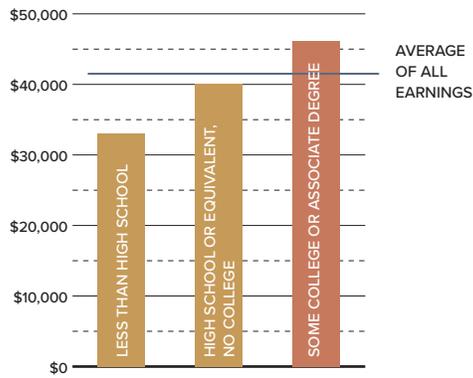
\$91.8 MILLION

NOTE:  
THESE ANALYSES  
PREDATED THE  
COVID-19 CRISIS AND  
THE ECONOMIC  
IMPACTS THAT  
FOLLOWED.

Note: Figures include direct, indirect and induced economic impacts.  
Sources: JobsEQ, Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and Texas community colleges.

### WAGES BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

AVERAGE ANNUAL EARNINGS BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT, UPPER RIO GRANDE REGION, 2018



Source: JobsEQ

Community colleges provide their students with a good return on investment.

In 2018, workers in the Upper Rio Grande region with some college or associate degrees and stable jobs earned an average of \$6,090 more annually than high school graduates.

AVERAGE WAGE INCREASE OVER HIGH SCHOOL OR EQUIVALENT

\$6,090

NUMBER OF WORKERS, SOME COLLEGE OR ASSOCIATE DEGREE

72,282

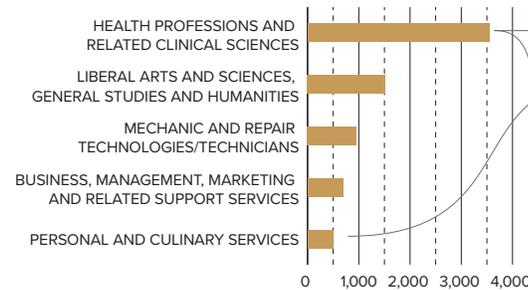
TOTAL REGIONAL ADDITIONAL WAGES

\$440.2 MILLION

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, JobsEQ and Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts

### CERTIFICATES AND DEGREES

TOP CERTIFICATES AND DEGREES, UPPER RIO GRANDE REGION, 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR



The Upper Rio Grande region's one community college district awarded more than 3,500 certificates and associate degrees in health professions in the 2017-18 school year; the next most-common award areas were general studies and liberal arts and mechanic and repair technologies.

### REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT NEEDS

FASTEST GROWING OCCUPATIONS, UPPER RIO GRANDE REGION, 2014-2019



Source: JobsEQ

### SUMMARY

Community colleges play a vital role for students and businesses by offering postsecondary education and job training at great value. As El Paso Community College works to address local skills gaps and meet the needs of area employers, it supports more than 2,000 jobs and adds more than \$192 million in economic output annually. Furthermore, the higher pay of those with some college or an associate degree helps raise total wages in the region by more than \$440 million per year.

### SPOTLIGHT EL PASO COMMUNITY COLLEGE

- The new Transportation Training Center at El Paso Community College (EPCC) will train El Paso's future workforce in the high-demand career fields of diesel technology, automotive technology and auto collision repair.
- EPCC also offers a Cisco Networking Academy, which guides students toward certification as Cisco Certified Network Associates.
- To meet local needs, EPCC provides a Border Health Issues enhanced skills certificate, which prepares students to work as members of multidisciplinary teams to address the unique health care challenges of U.S./Mexico border communities.

TO SEE INFORMATION ON COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND THE TEXAS ECONOMY: <https://comptroller.texas.gov/economy/economic-data/colleges/>